

WILL EAT BOONE
COUNTY POSSUMS

Columbia Citizens and Distinguished Guests at Dinner Tonight.

HADLEY COULD NOT COME

Electric Sign on Old Court House Columns Reads, "Oh, You Possum!"

Thirty-five Boone county possums, served in plates tonight, will be eaten tonight in the old court house by about 100 representative men of Missouri. The dinner is to be given by the Columbia "Possum club." It is intended to promote good feeling between the citizens of Columbia and the Boone county men of the state, members of the club say.

Frederick W. Lammiman, a lawyer of St. Louis, will be the guest of honor. Several of the out-of-town guests will respond to toasts. A. N. Scott, former circuit attorney of St. Louis, will speak on "The Law and the Possum." James A. Reed, former judge of Kansas City, will speak on "Missouri." "Citizenship in the Republic" will be the subject of a speech by W. H. Vandiver, former state insurance commissioner. Elliott W. Major, attorney general of Missouri, will discuss "Possums." Thomas J. Anderson, C. C. attorney of St. Louis, will speak on "A Little of Everything."

Governor Hadley had expected to come, but is detained in Kansas City to testify before the grand jury of Jackson county. Former Governor Paul R. Francis had also intended to be present, but the date conflicted with the Deep Waterways convention in Washington which he will attend.

Some of the Guests.

Some of the others who are expected from out of town are: Homer Bassford, of the St. Louis Times; J. R. Lowell, editor of the Moberly Democrat; George Robertson, city attorney of Mexico; Judge William M. Williams, an attorney of Boonville; J. C. O'Keefe, of Moberly; Senator S. C. Major, of Moberly; Dr. H. K. Givens, of Fayette; R. M. White, editor of the Mexico Ledger; J. West Goodwin, editor of the Sedalia Bazar; J. F. Hawley, of St. Louis; A. C. Dingle, former mayor of Moberly; D. C. Nevin, president of the Kansas City-St. Louis electric line; V. H. Roberts, a lawyer of St. Louis; J. R. Kirk, president of the Kirksville normal; M. J. Lilley, of Mexico; Porter Gilvin, deputy warden of the state penitentiary; Judge John R. Hairston, of Fayette; Dr. Jacobs, of Boonville; Paul Prosser, prosecuting attorney of Howard county; Senator Frank W. McAlister, of Paris, Mo.

The "possums which will be served were all caught in Boone county. A few were caught by members of the Columbia "Possum club," but most of them were obtained by sending out negro hunters who take delight in "possum hunting. The possums were caught a week ago and have been in fattening pen ever since.

A negro woman has been hired as cook. Old fashioned "corn pone" will also be served.

The supper tonight is to consist of eight courses. With the exception of the "possum," it is to be served by a St. Louis catering company. It is planned to make the supper an annual affair. This is the first one of its kind ever given in Columbia.

A sign made by intertwining a wire with electric light bulbs has been placed upon the old columns in the courthouse yard. The sign reads: "Oh, You 'Possum!"

ARMY WANTS COLLEGE MEN.

Chance Offered Athletes to Enlist for Commissions.

Athletes at the University of Missouri are asked to apply for admission to the regular army. Dr. A. Ross Hill, president of the university, has received a letter from W. C. Caple, captain of company A, Third battalion of Engineers, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., asking Dr. Hill to recommend any men students in the university who are good at any branch of athletic sports, such as gymnastics, field sports, or football, and who desire to enlist for a commission. The letter states the requirements for admission are so simple they can readily be met by college men.

THE LIGHT THAT FAILED AGAIN

Short Circuit Saturday Night Left Columbia in Darkness.

The electric lights failed last Saturday night because of a short circuit at Ninth Street and Broadway. The current was off for long intervals from 10 o'clock until 12.

RAIN OR SNOW PREDICTED.

The Forecaster Promises More Winter for Columbia.

The weather forecast for Columbia is: "Rain or snow tonight and Tuesday. Warmer tonight."

The temperatures:
7 a.m. 18 11 a.m. 24
8 a.m. 18 12 noon 26
9 a.m. 20 1 p.m. 28
10 a.m. 22 2 p.m. 30
Rainfall 1.63 inches.

IOWA ALUMNI DISSATISFIED.

They Favor One-Man Directorship of University's Athletics.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 6.—Reform in the University of Iowa athletic system is being quietly and thoroughly discussed by alumni of that institution.

"What is wrong at Iowa?" is the question which has been asked more than any other in athletic circles of this state for the last five years.

Last week the foreword of definite action was noted when Charles Clark, of this city, a member of the Iowa board in control of athletics, attended the meeting of that board in Iowa City. Heretofore the alumni members have not been active in the athletic management, hence Clark's action is taken as being deeply significant of an organized demand for reform. Des Moines alumni are in favor of a one-man directorship. "Why not have a man similar to Stagg of Chicago or Hutchins of Wisconsin," is their sentiment.

During the last three years little progress has been made at the state university toward developing anything resembling a "system." The students have not been educated to form an athletic association and undergraduate opinions have had no medium through which they could be expressed. These and other conditions have led to the general feeling of discontent which is rapidly approaching a crisis.

DR. HILL TALKS TO TEACHERS

President of M. U. Addresses 240 Educators at Maryville.

Dr. A. Ross Hill, president of the University of Missouri, addressed the Nodaway County Teachers' association at Maryville, Mo., Friday night. About 240 teachers of Nodaway county were present at the meeting, which was held in the new \$100,000 high school building in Maryville. After the meeting a reception was given Dr. Hill by the alumni of the University of Missouri living in Maryville and Nodaway county. It was held in the Elks' club rooms. About thirty alumni and former students of the university were present.

The foregoing account of the meeting was sent to the University Missourian by E. B. Trullinger, who was a student in journalism at the university last year.

DR. HETHERINGTON A DELEGATE

Will Represent M. U. at Meeting of Intercollegiate Association.

Dr. C. W. Hetherington, director of athletics at the University of Missouri, has been appointed a delegate to the annual convention of the Intercollegiate Athletic association, which will meet in New York City December 28. The meetings will be held at the Murray Hill hotel.

Some of the subjects to be discussed at the meeting are: Football and basketball rules, track athletics, the administration of college athletics, amateurism, competition in college athletics, the inter-relationship of all forms of amateur athletics, and courtesy and sportsmanship in intercollegiate athletics. Dr. Hetherington will represent the University of Missouri.

SPECIAL CAR TO JOPLIN

This Would Save the Longer Trip Through Kansas.

Joplin students at the University of Missouri probably will go home in a special car Christmas. If such an arrangement is made the car will be switched to a Missouri Pacific train at Nevada. This will afford a quicker trip for the students. Ordinarily Joplin students must go by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad through Kansas to get the benefit of the interstate rates.

ARTS STUDENTS WON MEET.

They Made Score of 31 in Inter-Department Track Contests.

Athletes from the College of Arts and Science won the inter-department track meet held on Rollins Field Saturday afternoon. Their score was 31. Scores made by the other departments were: School of Law, 29; School of Engineering, 14; College of Agriculture, 9; School of Journalism, 4.

Seniors to Arrange Celebration.

The All-senior class of the University of Missouri will meet at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow night to elect a representative to the Glee Club board, and to arrange for a Christmas celebration. The meeting will be held in room 14, Academic Hall.

JAIL HERE IS ONE
OF WORST IN STATE

What a Prison Worker Says of the Antiquated Boone County Structure.

IT SHOULD BE REPLACED

Conditions Comparable Only to Those in Carthage Cell-House.

The Rev. J. R. Bollman, of Kansas City, a representative of the Society for the Friendless, says that the Boone county jail is one of the worst he has seen in all his prison work. Mr. Bollman spoke yesterday in the churches of Columbia, and yesterday afternoon, assisted by the Baptist Young People's Union, he held a service in the county jail. After the service Mr. Bollman said:

"This is one of the worst jails I have found in the state. About the only one I have found which is worse is the jail at Carthage—similar in a number of ways to the Boone county prison. At Carthage I found men huddled into a room not nearly large enough to hold them. The majority of them had nothing to sleep on except the bare floor of the cell. Their condition was pitiable in the extreme."

"After having seen the magnificent court house, the beautiful churches, and the splendid schools of Columbia, I was much surprised when I visited the old jail. In the future I expect to find here a new, modern jail, up to the standard of the other public buildings. The people of the greatest educational center in Missouri cannot afford to erect a cheap building. They should build for at least half a century."

The Society for the Friendless, in the interest of which Mr. Bollman is here, is an organization incorporated in Missouri and Kansas, with headquarters in Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Joseph, Topeka and Wichita. The object is to prevent crime and assist needy men who are released from prison. More than 300 men have been aided in the two states in the last two years. Of these only about one-fourth disappointed the prison workers, and only 10 per cent returned to prison. The needy former prisoners are provided by the society with employment, homes and working clothes, in the endeavor to induce them to become self-supporting, law-abiding citizens. The work of the society is supported entirely by gifts. Mr. Bollman will be here until Wednesday morning.

SURVEYING TROLLEY LINE.

Work Has Been Completed on First Twenty Miles.

The first twenty miles of surveying to be done on the Kansas City-St. Louis electric railroad has been completed between Columbia and Harrisburg. W. B. Cuthbert, in charge of surveying, said this morning: "Actual location for the road has been decided upon, and we will start nine surveyors toward Kansas City tomorrow. They will make the permanent survey. Work to St. Louis will begin later."

Members of the executive board of the road were in Columbia Saturday looking over the ground.

HARD WORK FOR BASKETBALL

Coach Ristine Tells Large Squad to Train as Football Men Did.

Active scrimmage work will begin in basketball tonight. Ten men were picked at the Saturday evening practice to start work. Coach C. L. Ristine let every one know that only those who kept up good work could expect to stay on the varsity squad.

"The squad will train as faithfully as did the football team," said the coach. Practice Saturday night was only preliminary. Twenty-seven men were out.

TEXAS WOULD PLAY MISSOURI.

Coach Here Trying to Arrange Game With Tigers.

Dr. E. W. Draper, coach of the University of Texas football team, is in Columbia today to try to arrange a football game between the University of Missouri and the University of Texas. Dr. Draper is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and played on the football team of 1905-06-07 and 08 of that institution.

On Way to St. Petersburg.

H. W. ("Easy") Anderson, former captain of both the football and track teams of the University of Missouri, is in Columbia for a short visit before departing for St. Petersburg, Russia, to take a position as assistant physical director of "The Lighthouse," an organization similar to the Y. M. C. A. in the United States.

COLUMBIA FINANCES
SHOW GAIN IN 1908

Excess of Expenditures Over Receipts Made Up by Sinking Fund.

BOND ISSUE NOW \$168,000

Assessed Value of Property is \$3,000,000, Less Than Half Real Value.

The financial statement of the city of Columbia for the year 1908 shows that on the whole the city's finances ran ahead last year. An excess of expenditures over receipts in the general fund and water and light fund, together amounting to about \$1500, was more than balanced by a gain of \$13,000 in the sinking fund.

The general revenue receipts from a tax of 50 cents on the \$100 assessed valuation were, in round numbers, \$16,000. Other general receipts brought the total to \$24,000. Of this amount \$5,000 was from the sale of interest revenue bonds. Balancing this issue of new bonds was the payment of old bonds to the amount of \$6,000.

Running Expenses Were \$25,000.

The general running expenses of the city for the year were \$25,000, including the \$6,000 bond issue. The salaries of city officials amounted to \$2,200. The police department was maintained at a cost of \$3,000, in which are counted the salary of the marshal at \$900 and two policemen at \$750 each.

The expenses of the engineering department, including \$1100 salary for the head engineer, were \$2500. For printing, advertising and stationery the city paid \$900. The fire department cost \$1500. The court costs were smaller than any other division of the expenses, amounting to a little more than \$500. Damage claims were paid to the amount of \$850. The miscellaneous expenses were \$1300.

Columbia's streets, sidewalks and sewers show the largest cost of any of the general divisions. They were constructed, maintained and repaired last year for \$2000. This does not include street paving and sidewalk construction paid for by property owners.

The total amount covering the general running expenses of the city was \$25,078.92. The general receipts were \$24,293.35. The shortage was \$785.57.

Sinking Fund Shows Profit.

The sinking fund for the redemption of bonds and interest, shows a clear profit. For this fund there is a tax of 55 cents on the \$100 assessed valuation. The receipts for the year 1908 were \$20,248.12. Interest on outstanding bonds to the amount of \$7,361.20 was paid. The balance for that year alone was \$12,886.92. The year 1907 had carried over a balance of almost \$17,000. This made the balance at the first of the present year \$29,569.97. Since then an issue of \$15,000 in outstanding bonds has been paid. The total bonded debt January 1, 1909, was \$145,000. Three thousand dollars has been added this year.

Loss in Water and Light Fund.

Not counting the balance brought forward from 1907, the water and light fund showed a loss of \$759.91 in 1908. The receipts for the year were \$57,594.46. The expenses amounted to \$46,354.37. About \$1200 was on hand at the first of the year 1908.

Salaries and wages of employees in water and light work amounted to about \$8900 that year. Coal, including the cost of hauling cost \$20,800. Oil was purchased to the amount of \$730. The insurance payments totaled \$375.

The assessed valuation of property in Columbia is about \$3,000,000. The total tax is \$1,250 on the \$100. According to John S. Bicknell, city clerk, the assessed valuation is far less than half the real value of property.

"For instance," said Mr. Bicknell today, "a lot was sold some time ago for \$1500 that is assessed at \$75."

Mr. Bicknell said he believes the city would show a greater loss in its finances this year than it showed in 1908.

PLANS FOR FIVE TRACK MEETS

Besides Conference Event, Team Will Meet Washington and K. U.

The University of Missouri will have five track meets this season. A Tiger team will be sent to the Missouri Valley Conference meet in Des Moines. An indoor and an outdoor meet with Washington University probably will be held in St. Louis.

An outdoor meet with the University of Kansas will be held in Columbia, while an indoor meet with the Jayhawkers will be held in Kansas City. The dates for the meets have not been arranged.

FOR THE BOOSTERS' CLUB.

All presidents of county clubs, state clubs, sectional clubs, or any club the purpose of which is to boost the University of Missouri "back home" among prospective students, should attend the meeting tonight to organize a "Boosters' Club." The Christmas holidays are only two weeks away and some arrangements must be made to show the high school students back home that you are from the University of Missouri, and that you have the New Missouri Spirit. The meeting will be held at 7 o'clock in room 14, Academic Hall.

ROPER'S PICTURE IN VANDALIA

Editor of Paper There Has Portrait of Coach Over His Desk.

F. P. Wilson, editor of the Vandalia Mail, a weekly newspaper published in Vandalia, Mo., has a picture of "Bill" Roper hanging over his desk. He wants Roper to come back to Missouri next year.

He has written the University Missourian as follows:

"Anyone coming to Vandalia will find a picture of 'Bill' Roper stuck over my desk. Let's have Roper next year. I'll help."

Mr. Wilson was a student in the school of Journalism last year.

TO SHOW MR. ROPER

Columbia Business Men Will Play Football Game for Charity.

Columbia business men are to play a football game, just to show "Bill" Roper that he hasn't the best man in the West. The game is to be played some time this week and the proceeds will go to charity. The admission fee will be 25 cents. C. Sidney Stephens and J. L. Stephens, brothers, are the captains of the opposing teams.

"We are going to have a real football game," said "Sid" Stephens. "The halves will be ten minutes long. This will give sufficient time to show which team is superior. There will be no foul to the amount of time taken out, but no substitutes will be allowed. If a man gets knocked out, his team will have to play with ten men. We shall use the Varsity football suit."

"It's got to be warmer than today," added J. L. Stephens. "We want the ground to be a little softer."

There was much discussion as to the water carriers. After a great deal of argument, "Sid" Stephens' team was allowed eleven water carriers with "Bud" Saunders as chief. "Pony" Black was finally chosen to be the sole water carrier for the J. L. Stephens team.

"I guess that he can almost fill the bill," said the captain.

Dr. Woodson Moss is to give first aid to the injured and no officials will be allowed on the field. Here is the line-up:

Millard Lipscomb LT	Frank Rollins LG
J. L. Stephens LG	R. B. Gibson
W. W. Garth LE	Harry Broadhead
Ira Stone Q	H. B. Klein
R. B. Price, Jr. RH	C. B. Rollins, Jr.
Dr. Deggs FB	Sidney Rollins
J. H. Moss LH	J. P. McFaine
John Hubbell C	Ed Watson
K. Cunningham RG	Frank Dearing
Jim Lipscomb RT	Clarkson Rollins
John Holloway RE	E. S. Stephens

FOR THE FOOTBALL DINNER.

Mayor Crittenden and W. S. Cowherd Are Expected to Speak.

Mayor T. T. Crittenden and W. S. Cowherd, of Kansas City, are expected to be present at the banquet to be given by Columbia business men to the football team December 16. Between thirty and forty out-of-town alumni and former students will be present, including representatives from Hannibal, St. Louis, St. Joseph and other places. Covers will be laid for 150.

The solid gold miniature footballs ordered for the players will arrive before the banquet. Twenty-two of them have been ordered. On one side of the ball is engraved a large black "M" and the figures "92." The reverse side is engraved with "M. V. Champions." Besides Mayor T. T. Crittenden and W. S. Cowherd, Guy Thompson and "General" Smith, of St. Louis, and Daniel McFarland, of Maryville, are expected to speak. Several Columbia business men, followed by a number of the faculty of the university, will also speak. Captain C. L. Ristine and Captain-elect J. R. Black will respond in behalf of the team.

Smoker for Football Team.

The football team of the University of Missouri will be entertained tonight at a smoker by the Sigma Nu fraternity at their house at 414 Hitt Street.

SAYS CHRISTMAS
GIFTS SPOIL HOME

Miss Day Talks About the In-artistic Display of Useless Presents.

TOO MUCH TO DUST

Home Makers' Conference Will Discuss Remedies at Meeting Here.

That the exchanging of useless Christmas gifts is responsible for the lack of artistic furnishings in American homes is the opinion of Miss Edna Day, head of the home economics department at the University of Missouri. Miss Day will say this and much more relative to poor taste in arranging the home, at the third annual meeting of the Home Makers' Conference in Columbia December 28 to 31.

"The American people desire artistic furnishings," said Miss Day, in discussing the subject, "but too often they lack the knowledge necessary to carry out their ideas. Schools should teach this branch of education, for it is more important that girls should know how to arrange their belongings artistically than it is for them to be able to paint a picture. If a girl has ability in house decorating she can furnish a home satisfactorily on much less money than otherwise."

"The other trouble with our homes is that they have too many inartistic things in them—too many things to dust. The main cause of this is the custom of exchanging Christmas gifts regardless of whether they are beautiful or useful. We so often give things that are neither needed nor wanted. Christmas giving puts a burden on people before and after Christmas, especially after, when our home must be decorated with numerous things neither artistic nor appropriate. Make a festival of Christmas Day by keeping the real Christmas spirit, not by exchanging useless gifts."

The object of the Home Makers' Conference is the bettering of American homes from an artistic as well as a practical standpoint.

MUST FIGHT FOR REFORMS.

Frank Burt of Chicago Gives Advice to University Men.

The social problem in regard to justice between man and man, the fight for tenement commissions, for playgrounds, for municipal reforms, for limiting the privileges of the few in favor of the many, and the struggle against the "white plague," are problems for the university man when he leaves school, according to F. H. Burt, president of the Chicago Secretarial Institute and Training School, who spoke in the auditorium of the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon. The subject of Mr. Burt's address was "The University Man and the City."

Mr. Burt said there is a great tendency toward personal advancement in the life of the scholar when he leaves school. He said it was the duty of the university man to put himself into the fight for the better things of life.

"If you are not big enough to choose between the conflicting claims that come upon you in the university, you are not big enough to choose between them in after life," continued Mr. Burt. "I trust that life in the University of Missouri is giving you professional skill and breadth of life. I hope it will teach you to make life brighter and better."

HIGH SCHOOL PLAY POSTPONED

Fire Causes Students to Change "The Rivals" to January.

The students of the Columbia high school have postponed the date of their play, "The Rivals," which was to have been given December 17, until after the holidays, on account of the recent fire in the high school building. A number of classes in the regular course have been dropped until repairs are made to the damaged building. Regular work probably will be taken up the first of next week.

Prof. Street Spoke in Kansas City.

Thomas H. Street, professor of equity in the School of Law of the University of Missouri, read a paper on "The Quality of American Case Law" at the monthly meeting of the Kansas City Bar Association in the Commercial club rooms Saturday night.

Former Boone County Man Dies.

John L. Burnham, a real estate dealer who one time lived near Ashland, Mo., died in Kansas City last Friday night. The body was brought to Columbia today for burial. Mr. Burnham moved to Kansas City from Ashland about twenty years ago.